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## Montfort & Allie B. Jones Memorial Library

(Bristow Public Library) 111 W. Avenue Bristow, Ok 74010 (918)367-6562

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June 1, 2005

Federal Communications Commission Office of the Secretary 445 - 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

Re: Request for Review or Waiver

CC Docket No. 02-6

Billed Entity Number:

140042

471 Application Number:

398439

Funding Request Number(s): 1089508, 1105942

Contact Person: Donna Lawrence

C/O Bristow Public Library

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## To Whom It May Concern:

This is a request for review of the decision by the Schools and Libraries Division (SLD) of the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) for Funding Year 2004. I received a Certification Rejection Letter for the application number indicated above: Decision on Appeal: Denied in full.

Form 471 was submitted, postmarked January 22, 2004, without a signature. This oversight was a negligent error on my part, not realized until I received the Form 471 Certification Rejection letter dated February 5, 2004, one day after the original Funding Year 2004 filing window which closed February 4, 2004. I submitted my appeal to SLD on February 10, 2004 and received a full denial of my appeal on May 25, 2004.

It's my contention that had I received my rejection letter before the original deadline of February 4, 2004, I would have had the opportunity to submit my appeal in a timely

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fashion. I fully understand the rules of resubmission; I understand that my failure to sign the document was negligent, but losing my e-rate funding would prove devastating to this rural impoverished area.

Bristow is a small, rural town of 5,000. Currently, 75% of Bristow's students qualify for free and reduced lunches at the local public school. Poverty is high. To compound this problem, Kwikset (a Black & Decker Company), employing 1,200 people within and around the Bristow area for over 20 years, has announced that it is closing its doors and moving to Mexico. Your rejection will deny services to individuals and to a community during a time of extreme need. Areas to consider:

- The City of Bristow expects a large budget short-fall because of declining sales tax and utility fees. The library budget will be drastically cut for 2004-2005.
- The library computers and internet access will provide a crucial service for
  residents left unemployed when Kwikset moves this year by facilitating job
  searches and placement as well as online adult education that will allow the
  unemployed to re-enter the workforce.

Also, I believe my request for review is significantly different from the South Barber Unified School District Decision, DA-01-2233, released October 23, 2001, cited in the Administrators Decision on Appeal, Funding Year 2004. All of the pages of my 471 were submitted with appropriate certifications checked. Since I was hired as Director April 1, 2003, I was unable to sign electronically. In good faith, I double-checked my form 471 application, and made copies for my files and mailed Form 471 January 22, 2004, certified return receipt (see attached copy of receipt) 13 days before the Funding Year 2004 window closed, February 4, 2004. I did not leave out any pages (significantly Block 6, the certification Block which South Barber Unified School District did not submit.)

Please reconsider the SLD's decision of denial. E-rate funding was established to help impoverished communities just like Bristow.

Sincerely, Downa Lawrence

Donna Lawrence

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